

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐ no ☒

Property Name: Wetzel House Inventory Number: WA-I-096
Address: 21214 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no
City: Chewsville Zip Code: 21721 County: Washington
USGS Quadrangle(s): Hagerstown
Property Owner: Joel D. Jones Tax Account ID Number: 022028
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 5 Tax Map Number: 51
Project: Chewsville Streetscape Improvements Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration
Agency Prepared By: A.D.Marble & Company
Preparer's Name: Emma Young Date Prepared: 3/26/2007
Documentation is presented in: Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, WA-I-096, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Listed: ☐ yes ☐ no
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Architectural Description:

The dwelling identified as the "Wetzel House" was previously surveyed in 1974 using a Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form (WA-I-096, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland; the name Wetzel denotes the owner at the time of the 1974 survey. The property was not evaluated for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the 1974 survey.) This form is to serve as an update and expansion of the 1974 MIHP form.

The Wetzel House is located at 21214 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) in Chewsville, Washington County, Maryland. The dwelling occupies a small lot on the north side of Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) and to the south of the Western Maryland Railroad tracks. An asphalt-paved driveway stretches north from the west side of the dwelling. A poured-concrete sidewalk borders the south side of the property.

The one-and-a-half-story, three-bay, circa-1818, side-gabled, log dwelling has undergone minor alterations since the 1974 survey. The dwelling retains the steeply pitched, standing-seam metal-clad roof, complete with a decorative wooden vergeboard. The

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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MHT Comments:

Ann T. Williams
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

[Signature]
Reviewer, National Register Program

1/3/08
Date

1/7/08
Date

200703832

dwelling sits upon the original, fieldstone foundation. The circa-1920 door, which occupies the center bay of the south (front) elevation and sections of the clapboard siding are intact. A concrete-block, exterior chimney is located on the west elevation.

Since the 1974 survey, the four-light, sliding, aluminum windows in the second story of each elevation have been replaced with six-light, sliding, vinyl windows. A second story has been added to the one-story, rear ell that extends from the north (rear) elevation. The second story of the ell, and portions of the first floor of the west, north, and east elevations have been sheathed in vinyl siding.

A grassy lawn stretches northward from the rear of the dwelling. Mature evergreen trees delineate the west and north sides of the property. A maple tree shades the south (front) elevation of the dwelling. The Lynn House (WA-I-097) sits to the west of the property, and a late-nineteenth-century dwelling, 21216 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) is located to the east.

Overall, the dwelling stands in good condition.

Historical Narrative:

Property History

The property on Twin Springs Drive that contains the Wetzel House originated as part of a larger tract of land developed by John H. Hughes, William H. Fitzhugh, and his wife, Maria Fitzhugh. William Fitzhugh sold a five-acre portion of the property, including the log dwelling, to John B. Bachtel, trustee of wife Mary Ann's estate, for \$76.50 in 1849. The property was described as "a certain tract of land adjoining Chewsville."

Bachtel sold a portion of the lot measuring one acre and thirty square perches to Nicholas Beard in 1864. The lot was slightly altered in the 1870s when the Western Maryland Railway Company constructed a line along the northern border of the property. This change created the current boundary of the lot, which lies between the Western Maryland Railroad tracks to the north and the road leading from Hagerstown to Smithburg (Twin Springs Drive/MD 804) to the south.

The lot is noted in the 1877 Atlas of Washington County as the house of "S.W. Beard" (Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson 1877: 43). Presumably, the inhabitant was Silas W. Beard, the son of Nicholas.

After the death of Nicholas Beard, the trustees of his estate, John W. Beard, Silas W. Beard and David Harp, sold the small lot to Benjamin Franklin Gallagher in 1886. Gallagher purchased the lot for \$305 and quickly sold it that same year to Rose E. Harbaugh. Rose Harbaugh sold a small portion of the lot to Samuel K. Oswald et. al. in 1895 and willed the remainder to Preston H. Beard upon her death.

Preston Beard sold the property to Abba Gertrude Jones in 1927 for \$1,000, in addition to an \$800 mortgage. Two years later, in 1929, Jones sold the property to Cora A. Spessard. In 1952, Cora Spessard, unmarried, conveyed the property to Roy O. and Marguerite H. Sease for \$1650.

The Seases sold the property to George E. and Catherine B. Wetzel in 1960. The Wetzels resided at 21214 Twin Springs Drive for over thirty years. Jane C. Wetzel, heir of Catherine Wetzel, sold the property to Joel D. Jones in 1998. Jones currently, in 2007, retains ownership of the property.

Log Dwellings

The Wetzel House is an example of an early nineteenth-century log dwelling. McAlester and McAlester note that many early, pre-railroad, log houses are commonly found in rural areas and are well-documented and thoroughly studied (McAlester 2002: 82).

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

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Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

The "Middle Tradition," which McAlester and McAlester attribute to the colonies that comprised present-day Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland, consisted largely of Germanic immigrants from heavily wooded areas of central and northern Europe. The settlers utilized local resources, including limestone in areas under laid with stone; brick, in areas of clay and shale; and logs virtually everywhere to construction their buildings. The use of log is indicative of the low cost and availability of "rough forest materials" (Noble 1984: 41). The Germanic immigrants introduced techniques of building with logs hewn square and then placed horizontally to make solid wooden walls. Various systems of carefully interlocking or notching the squared timbers helped to hold the massive structures together.

In the area that included present-day Washington County, Scotch-Irish and English pioneers joined the Germanic settlers and quickly adopted the log building techniques. This group of settlers modified the shape of the three-room, log house into the one-room deep linear plan with external chimney(s) that dominated the region (McAlester 2002: 82). Examples of early log architecture and German architectural influences are represented throughout Washington County, although many have been re-clad in brick, wood, aluminum, and vinyl siding.

Significance Evaluation:

The Wetzel House, located at 21214 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) in Chewsville, Washington County, Maryland, is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The dwelling represents a common architectural form found throughout Washington County and Maryland.

According to the National Register of Historic Places guidelines established by the National Park Service, the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, site, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- B. that are associated with lives of significant persons in our past;
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory (National Park Service 1997).

The Wetzel House, located at 21214 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804) is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The dwelling is not associated with any events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history.

The Wetzel House is not eligible under Criterion B as it has no known association with the lives of individuals of historical importance. Although the individuals who owned and inhabited the property were of families that contributed to the development of the area, the persons who lived in the house were not directly involved in any significant events or trends.

The Wetzel House is not eligible under Criterion C because the dwelling does not possess the architectural distinctiveness necessary to qualify it for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The log dwelling, clad in exterior siding, represents a common architectural type and form found throughout Washington County and Maryland. Furthermore, the Wetzel House is not an exceptional or representative example of its form. The dwelling does not represent the work of a master, nor does it possess high artistic values.

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The property was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of the architectural survey and evaluation.

The Wetzel House possesses integrity of setting and location, retaining its location amongst early and mid-nineteenth-century dwellings on the north side of Twin Springs Drive (MD 804), adjacent to the roadway. The dwelling no longer retains integrity of design because the two-story, rear ell addition creates a rectangular footprint instead of the original, square form. The dwelling exhibits replacement exterior siding and windows, as well as an exterior, concrete-block chimney, which compromises integrity of materials and workmanship. The lack of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship culminates in the loss of integrity of association and feeling. Therefore, the Wetzel House does not contain sufficient integrity from the period of construction (circa 1818) to deem it eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

References:

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson

1877 An Illustrated Atlas of Washington County, Maryland. Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, Washington County.

2007 Real Property Data Records. Lot 51-1-5. Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, Washington County. Hagerstown, Maryland.

Maryland Historical Trust

1974 Wetzel House, WA-I-096, Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust: Crownsville, Maryland.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee.

2002 A Field Guide to American Houses. Alfred A. Knopf: New York, New York.

National Park Service

1997 National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. U.S. Department of the Interior: Washington, D.C.

Noble, Allen G.

1984 Wood, Brick, and Stone: The North American Settlement Landscape. The University of Massachusetts Press: Amherst, Massachusetts.

Washington County Office of Land Records, Hagerstown, Maryland.

1849 Land Record Liber IN 4, Folio 131

1864 Land Record Liber LBN 1, Folio 576

1886 Land Record Liber 89, Folio 543

1886 Land Record Liber 89, Folio 590

1927 Land Record Liber 178, Folio 616

1929 Land Record Liber 184, Folio 253

1952 Land Record Liber 271, Folio 345

1960 Land Record Liber 360, Folio 307

1998 Land Record Liber 1446, Folio 309

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Eligibility not recommended _____

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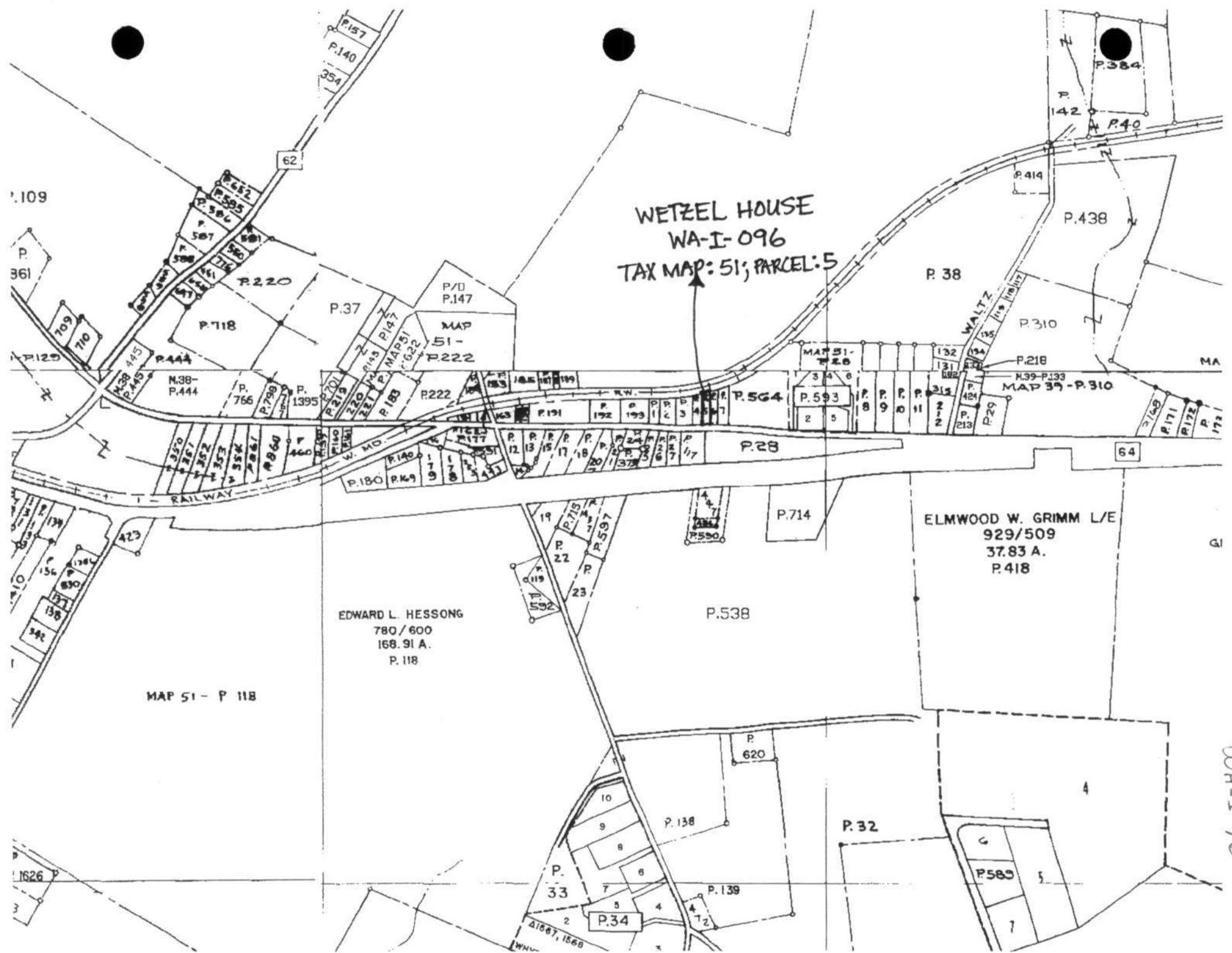
MHT Comments:

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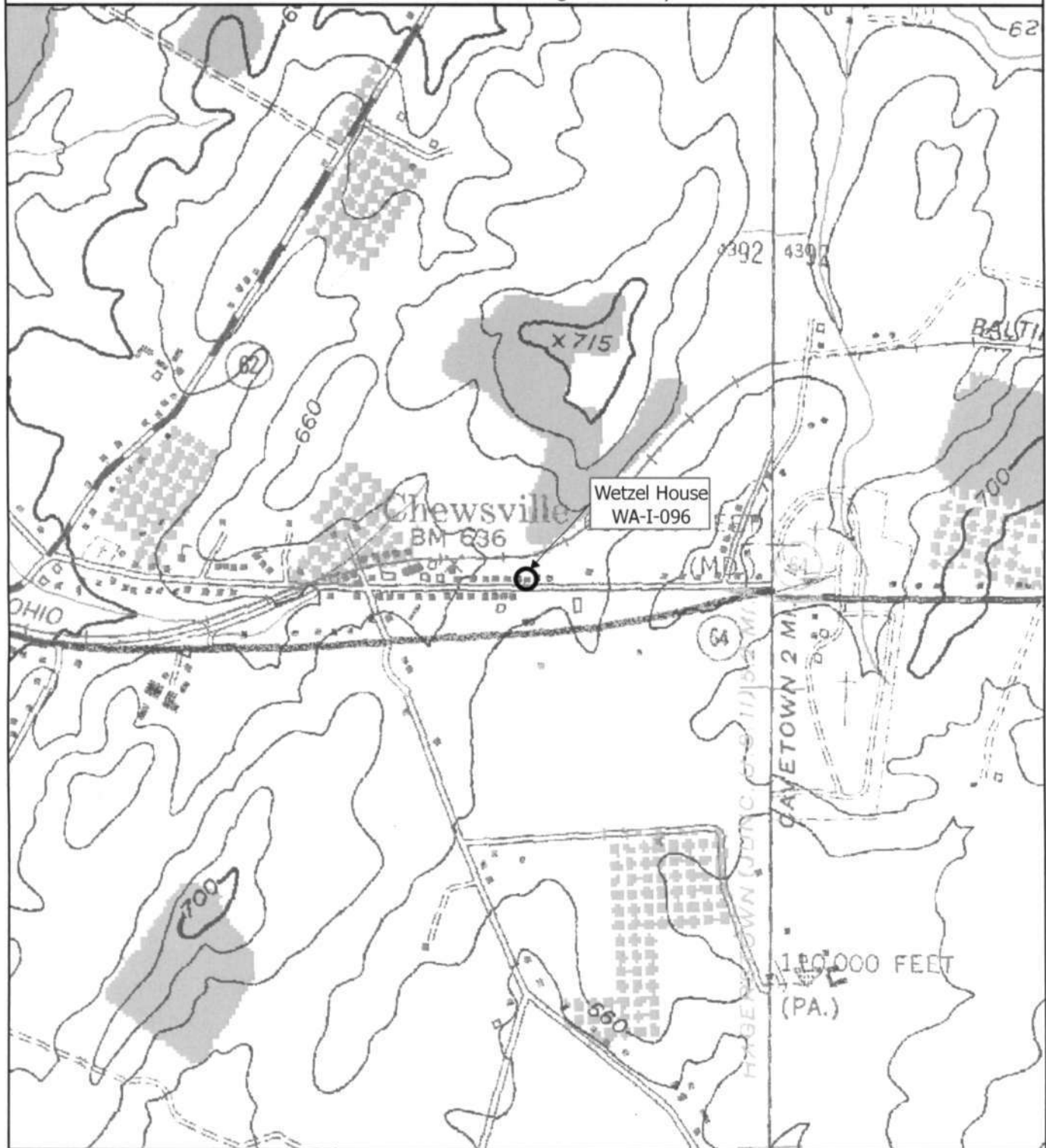
Date



WA-I-96

Wetzel House
WA-I-096

21214 Twin Springs Drive (MD 804)
Chewsville, Washington County



1,000 0 1,000
Feet

Resource

Map Source:
USGS 7.5' DRG: Hagerstown, MD; Smithsburg, MD.



WA-I-096

Wetzel House

Washington County, Maryland

E. YOUNG

03.2007

MD SHPO

South elevation; view to northeast

Photo # 1 of 2

PS_2. RETOUCH



WA-I-096

Wetzel House

Washington County, Maryland

E. YOUNG

03.2007

MD SHPO

South & west elevations; view to northeast

Photo # 2 of 2

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: Wetzel House				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Fitzhugh Property				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: north side Main Street, Old Route 64, now MD 804				
CITY OR TOWN: Chewsville				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Washington		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
Comments _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: George E. Wetzel				
STREET AND NUMBER: Box 26				
CITY OR TOWN: Chewsville		STATE: Maryland		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Washington County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown		STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 360/307				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> < 50%	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located on the north side of old Route 64, the Main Street of Chewsville. It is situated toward the east end of the village and faces south.

The structure is a three-bay, one-and-a-half story white weather boarded structure, presumably of log construction. A one-story wing extends to the rear of the house.

The walls rest on low fieldstone foundations and are sheathed with coved board siding. Windows appear to have been spaced evenly in the front elevation. They are trimmed with turn-of-the-century period pedimented architraves. First story openings contain two-over-two pane sashes while half-story windows at the second level have four-light casements.

The main entrance is located in the center bay of the front elevation and is similar in appearance to the windows. A one-bay, hipped roof entrance porch is present at the front elevation. It is supported by a pair of chamfered square posts with simplified brackets.

The roof is covered with sheet metal and extends beyond the end walls of the house. Plain boxing finishes the eaves. A modern concrete block exterior flue is located at the west gable end of the house.

The structure is in excellent condition and is located on a lot 50' X 200'.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4-D

WA-I-096

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The area of significance of this house is its architecture. It is also important for its supposed association with the Fitzhugh family, prominent early residents of Washington County who owned a large tract of land north of Chewsville.

As an example of a log building, this house is representative of a major architectural group in Washington County. Log was used as a building material in the area from the earliest days of settlement through the 19th century. Many of these log buildings remain in use today, sheathed by various forms of siding or bricks. The late 19th and early 20th century alterations are themselves significant, reflecting the then current means of transforming and updating the appearance of buildings.

This house and a neighboring structure, (WA-I-097), have been traditionally associated with the Fitzhugh family who owned hundreds of acres in the Chewsville area. The two small houses in Chewsville were said to have been secondary dwellings on the property. Colonel William Fitzhugh, a veteran of the American Revolution, came to Washington County late in the 18th century and resided at "The Hive" (WA-I-053) near Chewsville. In 1810, he moved to the Genesee Valley of New York with Nathaniel Rochester and Major Charles Carrol. Nathaniel Rochester founded the city of Rochester, New York.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 50' X 200'

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE

October, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:

Court House Annex

CITY OR TOWN:

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature



CEDAR HILLS
ANTHETAM
CREEK
JEFFERSON STREET
SMITHSBURG
CHEWVILLE 21721

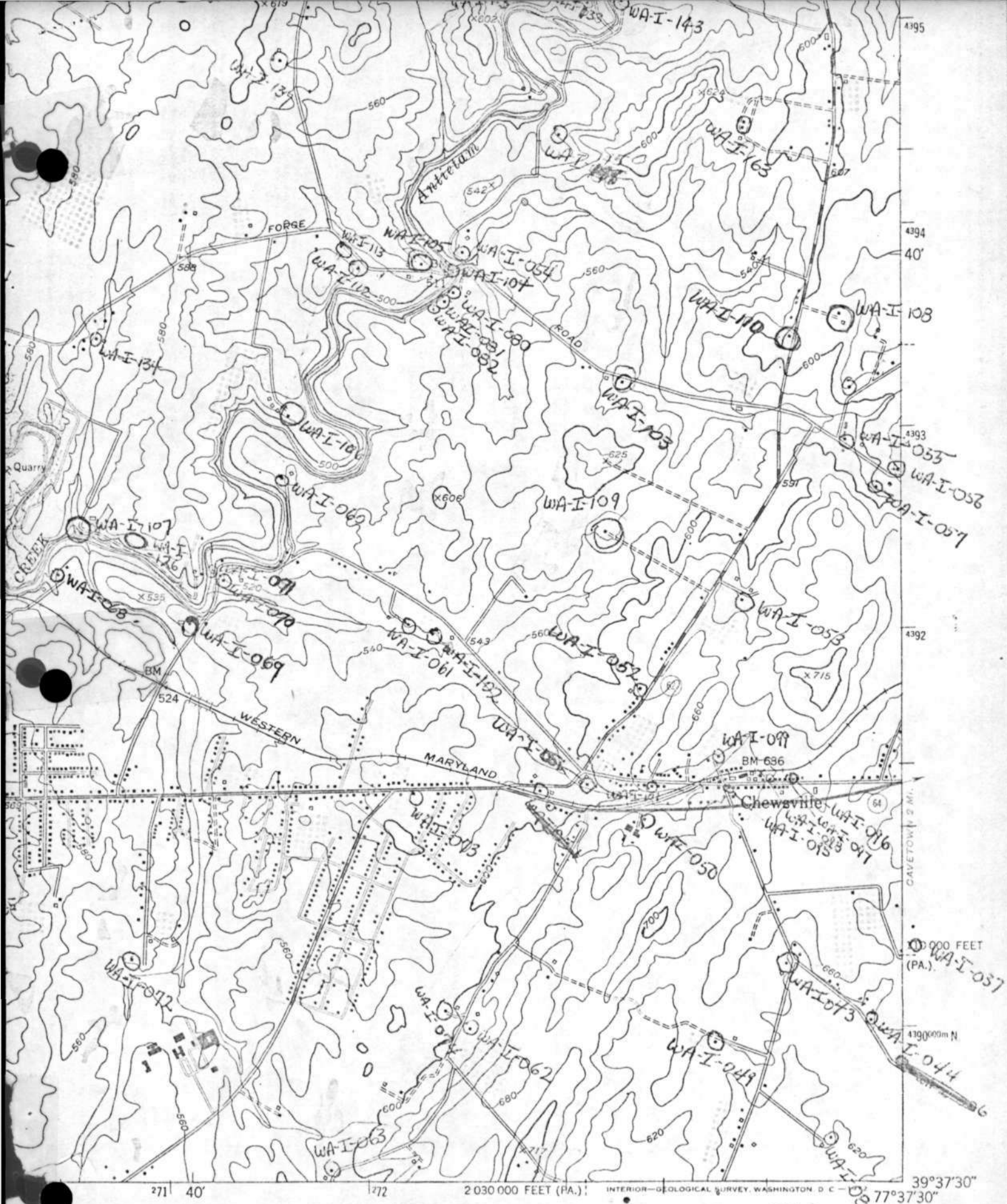
STONECROFT APTS
YOUNGSTOWN APTS
BRIGHTWOOD
DITTO FARMS REGIONAL PARK

HERITAGE HILLS
BEAVER CREEK ESTATES

WA-I-096
ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1984

21783





Hagerstown
Quadrangle

WA-I-096

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty  4 LANE 4 LANE Light-duty 
Medium-duty  4 LANE 4 LANE Unimproved dirt 

 U. S. Route  State Route

INVERSVILLE
5463 11 SE



WA-I-096

S.W.

Jan. 1974

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY